

# The Washington Times

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## Mexico and the Gold Standard.

Our Southern Neighbor Soon to Abandon the Use of a Discredited Money Metal.

That the Mexican government should be prudently casting about for means to revolutionize its monetary system need surprise no one who has followed the development of Mexico's fiscal policy under the guidance of President Diaz's energetic and capable minister of finance, Senor Jose Limantour. However wedded she has been by custom or interest to the silver standard, Mexico has been slowly drifting into a situation in which she must choose between surrendering a discredited and depreciating money standard or hopelessly handicapping herself as a factor in the business and commerce of the world.

In the face of steadily falling silver values Mexico has clung persistently to a standard which has as steadily impaired her purchasing power in the world's markets. Peculiar local interests have neutralized to some extent the evils of a currency sinking deeper and deeper into the mire of discount. But with the latest unparalleled drop in bullion quotations silver's usefulness as a money metal has practically vanished, and Mexico and the few other countries still accepting it at an exploded coinage valuation have been rudely awakened to the necessity of putting their finances at any cost on the only basis now recognized by the great commercial and manufacturing nations.

To adopt the gold standard will, however, require on Mexico's part much courage and many sacrifices. The use of silver as a money metal gave a market to one of Mexico's most important products. Her production of silver for the last five years has averaged in bullion value about \$64,000,000. Little of this can be received hereafter for coinage under the gold standard.

Moreover, with gold at a heavy premium, importations into Mexico have greatly slackened. Rising prices for foreign goods have led to the establishment of many flourishing domestic industries. Depreciation of silver has had the same effect on imports as a high protective tariff. It has barred from the home market all but the luxuries of consumption, and has attracted local capital into varied and profitable manufacturing enterprises.

The problem of President Diaz and Secretary Limantour is now to establish a new and stable monetary standard without endangering Mexican industries—to check inflation without entailing panic and bankruptcy.

It is a problem which cannot be worked out in a week or a month; and there is every indication that the Mexican cabinet will make no move to solve it which is not grounded on intelligence and hedged with caution.

A first step toward the adoption of the gold standard is the decree of the Mexican congress, which went into effect on January 1, 1903, directing the assessment and collection of customs duties on a gold basis. Other steps may be looked for—the prohibition of gold bullion exports, the encouragement of gold mining, the raising abroad of a gold coin fund with which to begin gold payments and sustain the parity with gold of the mass of silver left in circulation.

But these and other measures will come gradually as they are needed in the difficult and delicate task of re-establishing Mexico's finances and lifting her to the level on which the greater transactions of business and commerce are hereafter to be conducted by all civilized powers.

## Europe Will Not Meddle.

We Had Reciprocity Once With Cuba and No War Lords Dreamed of Interfering.

It will take something more to balk President Roosevelt's plan of Cuban reciprocity than this new bugaboo of German interference.

The redoubtable Teuton war lord seems to be a convenient ghost for shaking in the face of Congress. But this particular hobgoblin is being sadly overworked. Whatever else he may be, the Emperor William is no fool. And he is not devoid of a memory. He knows and his statesmen know that reciprocity between the United States and Cuba is not a new experiment.

We had that kind of thing ten or eleven years ago. Secretary Blaine drew from reluctant Spain a treaty granting to the United States very much the same concessions which we now seek in Cuban markets, in return for generous terms for Cuban sugar.

Now, in 1891-1892 it never occurred to any war lord to object. No European power stepped in and demanded "most favored" treatment. Indeed, the whole world frankly recognized that the United States and Cuba had struck a bargain, and that the transaction was wholly an affair of their own.

That reciprocity arrangement lasted until we ourselves tore it down. It increased our commerce. It made Cuba a commercial appendage of the United States. It gave the island a short-lived prosperity. When we smashed the agreement, hard times fell upon Cuba, and revolution quickly followed in their train—the revolution we finally aided by our own army and our fleet when Cuba's plight had become intolerable.

If Germany did not interfere in 1891-92 there will be no interference now. If the "most favored nation clause" did not apply then, it can apply no more at present. But really this ostentatious thrusting forward of Emperor William on every possible occasion has become a little tiresome. What has the poor man done to deserve it?

## THE WAYS OF DIPLOMACY.

Indiscriminate Publicity Would Provoke Many Serious Complications.

If our State Department accorded publicity to all of its works and ways, endless embarrassment would ensue. It would provoke its friends, and, theoretically in international comity, every government is a friend of every other government until war is declared. Such a course would retard the freedom and disturb the harmony of diplomatic intercourse.

With some nations, like Russia and Turkey, with whom we have no neutralization treaties, the State Department has almost continual complications of a minor sort. In dealing with them much has necessarily to be conceded to their standard of fairness and justice. They recognize only the law of nations, whereby a subject of one government cannot expatriate himself without the consent of that government. With such powers the great mass of diplomatic differences relate to questions of neutralization.

The greatest number of cases for inquiry and adjudication refer to the injudicious and ill-advised doings of our naturalized citizens, who, through ig-

norance or a spirit of defiance, return to their native lands and become involved in trouble. Armenians and Syrians particularly regard their American citizenship as an eagle under such circumstances. It is the work of maintaining this eagle over their unlucky heads that frequently keeps State Department people in a more or less chronic condition of official fermentation.

Private claims for damages to person and property form no inconsiderable portion of the State Department's work. Complications over concessions is another subject of difference. Scores of such questions are quietly adjudicated every year without publicity. It is frequently the case that where such matters come to light they find their way to the surface through the most unexpected channels. Thus the statement that the American Minister to Korea had presented a claim to that government for \$1,500,000 on behalf of the contractors for a trolley line in Seoul, reached the American public by way of a report to the Russian government in St. Petersburg.—Washington Correspondence Philadelphia Press.

## OPPORTUNITIES IN ECUADOR.

By THOMAS NAST, Late Consul General of the United States at Guayaquil.

There are plenty of good opportunities in Ecuador for the investment of money. Corporations are not required to secure special privileges or concessions to transact business, unless it be to establish a bank, in which case it is necessary to conform to the banking laws laid down by congress, namely, to have a reserve of three-quarters of the amount of the authorized capital in metallic coin, to guarantee the note issues, etc. There is a good opening for a bank in Guayaquil.

The government has refused to grant concessions of land to foreigners in the Napo or Orient, where most of the land is occupied by wild Indians, the chief reason being because the territory is in dispute with Peru; it has also refused rubber concessions in the forests, because of late years the trees have not been properly bled, but cut down.

The planting and growing of rubber trees is considered one of the best investments; but very few have been planted, on account of the large supply of wild rubber and the fear that some artificial matter might be discovered to take its place.

The congress of Ecuador has decreed that the executive power shall adopt measures to prevent the extraction of rubber from the forests of the western slope of the country during a period of ten years, permitting the exploitation only of the trees cultivated.

The government will pay a premium of 20 cents (9.7 cents gold) for each tree planted after the promulgation of this decree, provided that there are not less than 500 trees at least one year old on the plantation. This decree goes into force on April 1, 1903. Natives engaged in rubber cultivation will be exempted from military service in time of peace.

There is an export duty on cacao of about \$2.50 (\$1.21 gold) per quintal (100 pounds); on rubber, about \$5 (\$2.42 gold) per quintal; on ivory nuts, less than 10 cents (4 cents gold) per quintal.

There is practically no ebony or mahogany in Ecuador, but many other beautiful woods are found.

There are two good banks in Guayaquil, and drafts on the United States and Europe are easily negotiated. Ecuador possesses a gold standard, and exchange is always practically the same, viz, about 50 cents United States currency to the dollar (sucres) of this country. The gold coin called "condor" is equal to 10 sucres.

Ecuador is reasonably healthy, especially in the country, the prevailing diseases being malarial fevers. One soon gets acclimatized. In Guayaquil and along the coast the climate during the wet season (from January to May) is very unhealthy. The diseases on the coast are "paludic," "pernicious" fevers and dysentery.

The chief industry of Ecuador is cacao growing, which is extremely profitable. The world's supply of cacao amounts to some 90,000 tons, and of this Ecuador produces 27,000 tons, or about one-third of the total. Land can be obtained at about \$1 per acre. It requires about five years to bring a cacao estate into bearing, at a cost of 15 to 20 cents per tree. The trees yield on an average one pound each.

For a plantation of 100,000 trees it costs to bring into bearing, say, \$17,500. At the end of five years it is worth \$50,000; at seven years, \$75,000, etc. The production of 100,000 trees would be 100,000 pounds, worth \$11,000 at present. The cost of putting this quantity on the market, including labor, etc., would be \$4,000, leaving a net profit of \$7,000.

Estates are easily sold at the above figures, and if a capitalist can wait for results for five years he is sure of a good income. In the meantime, "catch crops," such as rice or corn, can be grown on the same ground, which is so fertile that for the growing of rice, etc., it is never necessary to plow; a hole is simply made with a machete and the seeds put in, and good returns are obtained.

## In the Public Eye.

The Sultan of Turkey, despite his chronic impetuous condition, and failure to pay his debts, has recently ordered from Krupp's ninety-six field guns, and also ordered the purchase of 220,000 small caliber rifles, the whole involving an outlay of \$4,500,000.

Col. Thomas Wentworth Higginson is preparing a series of eight lectures to be delivered in the Lowell Institute course, on "American Literature in the Nineteenth Century." Colonel Higginson is in his eightieth year.

Sir William Muir, who has just resigned the principality of the University of Edinburgh, at the age of eighty-three years, has been in the public service since 1837, spending much time in India. His home is a perfect museum of Indian and Scotch curiosities. Among them is a velvet cap, made, says tradition, from the most useful part of John Knox's breeches, and placed on the head of all the recipients of university degrees, including those that are honored.

### THE PRINCESS AT THE GATE.

Prince, you are late!  
The princess watches for you at the gate;  
Looks down the long dull road with eager eyes  
And whispers softly, "Love, I wait."  
\* \* \* I wait."

Prince, is it wise  
To be so long in coming? for youth flies.  
And other men pass lightly on their way  
And see a pretty princess there who sighs.  
And one might say,  
"I am the prince you watch for every day,  
Pale princess looking out with eyes like stars,  
I love you, little princess, let me stay."

Behind her bars  
The little princess, grown too sad to play,  
Sits passionately whispering, "I wait,  
Oh, Lover, you are late."  
—Olive Constance in Rainbows.

## Unconsidered Trifles

### Spiritual Adjustment.

Mrs. Chic—Our new rector is not at all worldly.  
Mr. Chic—Well, he will have to tone our parish down.  
"Oh, no; our parish will have to tone him up."—Life.

### An Unwise Gift.

"You done wrong," said Brother Dick-ey, "ter give dat bigger dat ole frocktail coat!"  
"You think so?"  
"I know so. He'll be de ruination of 'im! He'll quit workin' now, en spend de balance er de year persuadin' hissef dat he got a call ter preach de gospel. I bet you right now he gone off ter buy a Bible on de installment plan!"—Atlanta Constitution.

### She Took Him.

"He's a fine retriever, miss."  
"But I don't want a hunting dog."  
"Aw, he don't fetch birds. He retrieves ping-pong balls."—Philadelphia Inquirer.

## IN THE COURTS AND CAPITALS OF THE OLD WORLD

Consumption Threatens Many European Royal Families—Queen Marie of Portugal and Duchess Helene of Aosta the Latest Victims—Few Jews in Ranks of Diplomats—Papal Navy Early Explorers of the Nile—Betrothal of Princess Caroline Reuss.

### Queen and Duchess Are Consumptives.

Consumption is one of the many ills which seem to be hereditary in certain of the royal families of Europe. The news that both Queen Marie Amelie of Portugal and her sister, Duchess Helene of Aosta, probably the two most beautiful women of the reigning houses of Europe, are threatened therewith and compelled to seek warm climate for the winter, will doubtless evoke memory of the fact that their father's mother, a Lutheran princess of the German dynasty of Mecklenburg-Schwerin succumbed to tuberculosis of the lungs, and that their father, the late Count of Paris, was so delicate that throughout the greater portion of his life he was forced to winter each year either in the south of France or in Spain.

Queen Marie Amelie will, it is said, spend the remainder of the cold season either in Egypt or at Nice, Lisbon, by reason of the Atlantic mists and winds being somewhat trying at this time of the year for a person with weak lungs. With regard to Duchess Helen of Aosta, her cousin, King Victor Emmanuel, has placed at her disposal his estate of San Rossore, which I described the other day in these letters, and which, lying between Pisa and the Mediterranean, occupies one of the most sheltered portions of the coast.

### Of Atavic Origin.

Duchess Helen has until now always been a perfect picture of health and looked upon as a woman of superb physique, passionately devoted to hunting, fencing, driving, and other forms of sport. The news that she is threatened with consumption has created genuine surprise mingled with regret among all those who had forgotten that she was the daughter of the late Count of Paris, and the granddaughter of the Protestant Duchess of Orleans, and fears are expressed lest her children, who are at the present moment heirs presumptive to the Italian crown, should inherit this tendency to diseases of the chest.

It may be remembered that King Victor Emmanuel refrained for many years from marrying in consequence of his dread that, owing to his puny physique, any children born to him would be weaklings, and as such a danger to the dynasty. His two little girls, however, are wonderfully vigorous and healthy children, bidding fair to inherit their mother's splendid constitution, whereas the children of the Duke and Duchess of Aosta, one of the handsomest and stateliest royal couples of Europe, are not only the reverse of strong, but, as I have just pointed out, threatened with their great-grandmother's tendency to consumption.

### Other Houses Also Affected.

Among other reigning houses in which this malady is regarded with dread, and upon which it has cast a blight, is the grand ducal dynasty of Baden, not only the Crown Prince of Baden, but likewise his sister, the Crown Princess of Sweden, being consumptive. Then there is the reigning house of Mecklenburg-Schwerin to which the late Duchess of Orleans belonged. The late grand duke, for many years preceding his death by suicide, was compelled to invariably spend the winters in the south of France. Many members of the imperial family of Russia have succumbed to consumption, including the late Czarina, her eldest son the Czarowitch Nicholas, the present Emperor's brother, Grand Duke George, and his young cousin, Grand Duke Alexis. The grand ducal house of Oldenburg is similarly afflicted.

### Diplomacy a Non-Semitic Profession.

The suicide at Milan of George Polacco, Italian minister plenipotentiary in Bulgaria, serves to call attention to the rarity of members of the Jewish race in diplomacy. In spite of their being peculiarly well qualified from a mental and intellectual point of view for this particular profession, it is seldom, indeed, that one finds in its ranks any man even with Jewish blood in his veins. Indeed, the only three cases that I can recall are the self-slain Italian envoy to the court of Sofia, who was a scion of one of the oldest Jewish families of Venice; Baron Max Oppenheim, who is attached to the German legation in Egypt, and spent the summer at Newport, and Sir Henry Drummond Wolff, until quite recently British ambassador at Madrid, and whose father, a converted Jew, achieved so much celebrity as an intrepid Central Asian explorer and missionary.

### Papal Commerce on the Nile.

In connection with the recent inauguration of the great Nile dam at Assuan, it is interesting to recall that the first European ship that ever sailed up the Nile as far as Assuan flew the Papal flag and formed part of the navy of Pope Gregory XVI. The name of the vessel in question was the *Fedelta*, which had been sent along with two others by the Pontiff in question from Italy in order to take possession of the columns of alabaster, which the old viceroy, Mohamed Ali, the founder of the present Khedivial dynasty, had presented to the Holy Father for use in the restoration of the San Paolo fuori Le Mura Basilica at Rome.

The two larger vessels did not ascend the Nile beyond Cairo, where they took on board the alabaster in question. But the *Fedelta*, being of much lighter draft, managed to make its way up

the river as far as the Island of Philae, which it reached on January 31, 1841, the papal flag being saluted by the Egyptian authorities there with twenty-one guns. To this day there remains a stone at Philae engraved with a record of the visit of this, the first European ship on the Upper Nile, and a similar inscription is likewise to be found in the ruins at the temple of Karnak, where the *Fedelta* touched on her way down stream. On the return of the Papal squadron to Italy the *Fedelta* entered the Tiber and proceeded up the river to Rome, where she was visited by the Pope, who spent several hours on board.

### A Royal Love Match.

The official betrothal of Princess Caroline Reuss to the reigning grand duke of Saxe-Weimar is worthy of note, in the first place, because it is a love match pure and simple, and, secondly, because the princess, in the event of the death of the young sovereign of Holland without issue, became queen of the Netherlands, the grand duke being the next heir to the Dutch throne.

The princess is a very handsome girl, and her good looks have evidently closed the eyes of the grand duke to the dangers of her having inherited any of the taint of insanity with which her only brother, the now reigning prince, is afflicted, and which prevents him from holding the reins of government, which are vested in the hands of a regent—namely, Prince Henry of Reuss, the head of the junior branch. Moreover, the father of the future Grand Duchess of Saxe-Weimar was distinctly crazy, and ought to have been placed under restraint for years before his death. For it was he who created so great a scandal by insisting that it was his prerogative as sovereign in Reuss and as father of his people to personally inflict at his palace the corporal punishment—that is to say, the birchings and canings—on all the school boys and school girls who had been slated for discipline of this kind by their teachers.

### Fear of Insanity.

In view of the fact that there is already a pronounced strain of insanity in the house of Saxe-Weimar through the late Grand Duchess, whose Russian mother, a daughter of Czar Paul, died a raving lunatic, the match is not one to be commended, or that inspires confidence. It had been generally expected that the grand duke, who is one of the wealthiest princes in Europe, would have married Princess Alice of England, Princess Beatrice of Coburg, or Princess Cecilia of Mecklenburg-Schwerin. But he has declined all the matrimonial alliances proposed to him, and somewhat to the disappointment of the Kaiser and King Edward, has insisted on marrying a girl after his own heart.

MARQUISE DE FONTENOY.

## Current Political Talk.

### The Parker Boom Grows.

Now, with the Hon. Hoke Smith voluntarily, as it appears, undertaking to supervise a Judge Parker boom in Georgia and the Hon. Joe Bailey directing a similar movement in Texas, it would appear that the New York jurist might soon be able to "Canonize" the Democratic situation and make the next national convention simply a ratification meeting.

There is much of significance in the fact that the former Secretary of the Interior has thus early espoused the nomination of Judge Parker, as it indicates that the old Cleveland wing of the party, especially in the South, is likely to take most kindly to Parker's nomination, and the South having the bulk of the Democratic votes purposes to have something to say as to whom the nominee shall be. There is likewise a depth of meaning in the fact that the Parker sentiment is so pronounced in the Lone Star State. There is probably no State in the Union where the lingering remnant of Bryanism is so strong as in Texas, or where there is a more kindly feeling for the Nebraskaan. While fast fades the light of Bryanism elsewhere, his star is still aglow with somewhat diminished splendor in the great Commonwealth of Texas. If, then, Texas is so ardent in support of Judge Parker, it may be assumed that this advocacy of his candidacy there, which has recently become very much in earnest, meets with the approval of Mr. Bryan, and that he is willing that the mantle which is the insignia of his former leadership may fall upon the shoulders of Judge Parker, instead of the now impossible Tom Johnson. This is the opinion which many discerning politicians hold, and it would not surprise them to see "The Commoner" at any time contain a complimentary reading notice in reference to a member of the New York bench.

Should this prove to be no handicap, the Hon. Hoke Smith may be successful in bringing up the other division of the divided Democracy to the support of the same candidate.

Truly, things are looking up in the matter of Judge Parker's candidacy, but meanwhile he appears to be actively engaged with a hand saw at the wood pile, and is permitting the conversational part of the game to be conducted by others.

### The Melodramatic Livernash.

Should the directory of the Fifty-Eighth Congress contain an accurate and complete biography of the Hon. Edward J. Livernash, member-elect from San Francisco district, it would afford material for a half dozen as thrilling melodramas as were ever produced on any stage.

The man who, on the face of the returns, defeated the Hon. Julius Kahn by less than 150 majority, has had a career during the past ten years which, by comparison, would make the tales in the "Arabian Nights" appear emotionless and unexciting. Livernash is a journalist, the representative of union labor mixed with Democracy, a composite production of eccentricities. Ten years ago he was under a mental cloud, and was arrested in the guise of a negro armed with deadly weapons, and still deadlier poisons. He was tried for murderous assault upon an aged man whom he sought to make sign a will

against his wishes, and after a long and sensational trial, escaped punishment.

The San Francisco paper upon which he is now employed as one of its principal writers, at that time was the most instrumental in bringing to light and publishing the sensational episodes in which he was the chief actor. Subsequently his brother, who by sheer force of his financial ability was a millionaire at the age of twenty-two—although he became almost a mendicant a few years later—committed suicide in a most tragic manner. In consideration of \$100, to be paid to his wife, the brother of the Representative-elect wrote the complete story of his own suicide, and he blew out his brains. The newspaper with which he made the contract paid the sum to his widow, and had a scoop on its contemporaries. Livernash figured conspicuously in the sensational developments which followed.

Once the successor of Mr. Kahn had a hairbreadth escape from becoming the victim of lynchers whom he was seeking to bring to justice for a similar crime. After a most thrilling trip over mountains of snow and ice, he was the first to reach Dawson City when the gold fever was at its highest there, and the gold hunters were snow-bound, and in peril of death by starvation. Again he came near losing his life.

All of the facts of his interesting career were brought out in the recent campaign, which was probably one of the most unique ever fought for a seat in the House of Representatives.

### "Big Bill" for Mayor.

The Hon. William S. Devery in a heart to heart talk to his followers in "de Ninth" has announced that he will be a candidate for mayor of Greater New York against any man who may be named by the Tammany Hall Democracy. The "Big Chief" has again been turned down by the Tammany leaders, and possessing some traits which are attributed to humanity he purposes to seek revenge.

Between the present head of the Tammany organization and the former chief of "the finest" there exists a most loving enmity second only to the affectionate regard which Devery has for the Hon. David Bennett Hill, and whatever Devery can do to promote the discomfiture of Mr. Murphy he will do with a cheerfulness born of determination to get even for what he believes to be an injustice.

What Devery lacks in political acumen and strategy he makes up in an ability to corral a band of "rooters," and with the William S. Devery Association as a nucleus, and the "pump," made famous in the last campaign, as a starting point, "the best chief New York ever had," to use the language of the former Mayor Van Wyck, intends to effect an organization between now and election time for the purpose of booming him for the office which is now filled by the Hon. Seth Low. Should he carry his threat into execution it will be interesting to watch the developments, for, having no responsibility and no chance of election, he might be able to make the situation somewhat interesting for his enemies in Tammany Hall, especially at a time when Tammany will put forth its best efforts to regain its lost power.

## THE AMERICAN JEWRY.

Greatly Charged Within the Last Twenty Years.

Up to the middle of the last century the Jews in this country were few, actually, or only about 50,000. They were scattered throughout the Union, considerable colonies existing in the Southern States, and the intercourse between Jew and Christian was friendly. In Newport, where Jews had settled at an early period, their social relations with the Unitarians, more especially, became so intimate that intermarriages infused Jewish blood into some New England families of distinction.

Forty Jewish immigrants from Lisbon landed at Savannah in 1733, and the first male child born in Georgia was a Jew, Isaac Mifflin. Jews made themselves important in the early commercial and political life of New York. When John Jacob Astor came to New York he began by beating furs for Hyman Levy. Ephraim Hart was a State senator and one of the twenty-one organizers of the board of stock brokers, from which developed the present stock exchange. Gershom Mendes Seixas was a trustee of Columbia College.

Prominent parts in Philadelphia society were played by David Franks and his daughter Rebecca. During the secession period the most distinguished intellect in the Confederate government was Judah P. Benjamin, secretary of state.

## LHASA, TIBET'S HOLY CITY.

The stories of failure are sometimes as interesting as the stories of success; but the narrative of Sven Hedin's recent attempt to reach the city of Lhasa in Tibet presents no remarkable features whatsoever. A great deal was expected of him; and now that the particulars of his expedition are known, they are found to be wholly commonplace.

With a large number of attendants and camp followers, he came to a region some seventy miles from Lhasa, and was there stopped by a strong force of Tibetans, who, by orders of the great Dalai Lama, treated him most courteously, but turned him back with the injunction that if he attempted to advance one step farther he would lose his head. This is the whole substance of his story as told by him to the Royal Geographical Society. He ran no risks; he suffered no hardships; he learned nothing new.

The mystery of the Holy City will hardly be revealed to Europeans in our time. Although one Englishman (Man-ning in 1811) and two Frenchmen (Hume and Gabet in 1846) professed to have entered Lhasa, the jealousy of foreigners felt by the Chinese and the Tibetans has been greatly intensified of late years, and the pilgrimage has become practical-

ly impossible. This fact of course only stimulates the zeal of adventurous explorers; yet the surest method of gaining exact knowledge about the capital of Lamaism is that adopted by the government of India, which has from time to time trained natives with a special view to exploration in Tibet.

From these men very accurate accounts of Lhasa have been derived, and such painful experiences as that of H. S. Lander in 1897 have been avoided. Nevertheless, attempts will doubtless continue to be made by individuals who remember Sir Richard Burton's success in Mecca, and upon whom even the record of Mr. Lander's horrible tortures exercise a certain curious fascination.

He who reaches Lhasa is certain to gaze upon one of the most marvelous cities that the world has ever known—a maze of temples, shrines, and palaces, walled in by gigantic mountain peaks, and surrounded by the famous Potala, the acropolis of Lhasa, with its golden dome and glittering peristyle.

When, however, Lhasa has been opened to white explorers, we may feel something of regret; for that will have narrowed the field of romantic adventure, already growing smaller every day.—New York Commercial Advertiser.